

As you may be aware, many migratory birds are killed as a result of collisions with cell phone towers. Many songbirds migrate at night and are killed after colliding with these towers, particularly during periods of fog, rain and low-cloud ceilings. Tower height, placement, lighting and the presence and placement of guy wires seem to influence mortality levels. We need to learn more about this problem. Please take action to protect migratory birds by:

- beginning a systematic review of communication tower and bird mortality issues;
- instituting a research program, funded by the communications industry, to identify tower placement, design and lighting conditions that result in bird mortality;
- undertaking environmental reviews of all existing towers to assess their placement and design with regard to migratory bird impacts;
- requiring that all proposed towers be subjected to rigorous environmental reviews;
- and implementing immediate protections based on existing knowledge, such as the voluntary tower siting and placement guidelines developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this very important matter.